

Table 1: Area of new planting by species (some projects had different area planted in different species)

	Number of projects <sup>1</sup>	Area (ha)	%
Radiata pine	45	1435	89.0
Douglas fir	7	7	4.7
Lusitanica	10	8	4.9
Macrocarpa	3	4	0.2
Eucalypt/Oak	3	7	0.4
Other	4	4	0.3
Native	1	6	0.3
Total	56	1612	

the new planting area (1435 ha) although it was planted on only 80% of the new planting projects. *Cupressus* species (*lusitanica* or *macrocarpa*) were planted on 23% of the projects but, because of the relatively small scale of planting, accounted for only 10% of the area (84 ha). New planting of Douglas fir totalled 76 ha.

**Replanting**

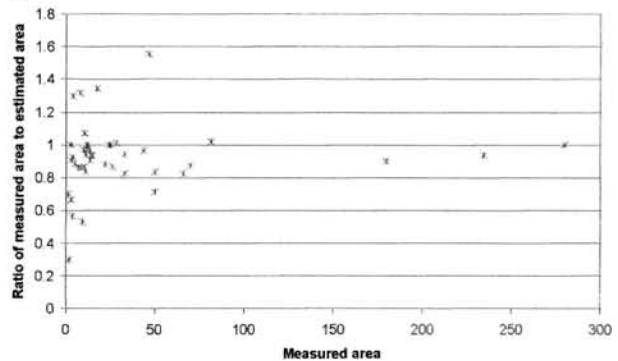
The survey also identified that there was 4551 ha of replanting in 2002. Radiata pine accounted for 98% of the area replanted; the balance was Douglas fir and *Cupressus* species. Less than 9% of replanting was by private owners; 85% of replanting was done by companies while the remaining 6% was done by Local Government.

**Accuracy of area information provided**

For each of the new planting projects the owner,

<sup>1</sup> Some projects had different areas planted in different species

Fig. 7: Ratio of measured area to estimated area plotted against measured area



manager or contractor was asked to provide an estimate of the area planted. Some 42 of these projects were subsequently field surveyed using a GPS unit with area subsequently determined using GIS. It is apparent (Fig. 7) that:

- some estimates were very accurate;
- a few estimates were too low;
- the majority of estimates were too high.

The mean estimated area was 38.5 ha while the mean measured area was 35.8 ha, resulting in an overall ratio of total measured area to total estimated area of 0.931. The average of the ratios for the 42 projects was 0.922. Although the ratio was less variable with larger projects, the level of accuracy did not vary significantly with project size.

**Reference**

Eyre, J. 1995: Predicting and Measuring New Planting from Nursery Surveys. *New Zealand Journal of Forestry* 40(2): 45-46.

**new information**

**Conference adds value to forest business**

The push to recovering greater value from the forest is driving the introduction of new technologies for growing, harvesting, distributing and processing wood products. This trend has implications for the different businesses involved in the supply chain and these developments and their implications will be explored during the AusTimber 2004 international forest industries conference.

The event will be held at the Albury Conference Centre in New South Wales from March 30-31 next year and will feature over 90 guest speakers mostly from Australia and New Zealand but also from North America, Europe and South Africa.

Speakers will address various aspects of the theme - 'Adding value to our forests - and our business'.

The conference will follow three subject streams - forest operations, transport and logistics, and sawmilling and processing - and presentations will describe operations that add value to plantations and regrowth

forest. These will include mulching machines and site preparation, very early thinning operations, pruning and ways of reducing machine impacts on the forest.

Key themes include:

Managing supply - the move to cut to order places tremendous pressure on harvesting and transport businesses.

Harvesting eucalypts - The scale of operations in eucalypt plantations is increasing rapidly and the opportunities and problems presented are explored by a number of contractors in a conference session.

Making logs - Cutting the tree into log dimensions that give the best return is an increasing important process.

Processing timber - The industry also needs to understand how to process these small logs so the maximum value is added to them.

For further information about the conference program phone the AusTimber office on 03 6248 5653 or visit [www.austimber2004.com](http://www.austimber2004.com)